

CITY OF RENO
HOME-BASED BUSINESS LICENSE CRITERIA

This information specifically governs the conduct of home-based businesses and must be complied with to preserve the validity of the home-based business license. *See* RMC 18.08.203(e)(3). The applicant must read, understand and certify that they are in compliance with the following regulations. Please note: other regulations not specific to home-based businesses may also apply; therefore, you must familiarize yourself with those laws and regulations.

- 1. Appearance:** The appearance of the structure shall not be altered, nor shall the occupation within the dwellings be conducted in a manner which would cause the premises to differ from its residential character either by the use of colors, materials, construction, lighting, signs, or the emission of sounds, noises, dust, odors, fumes, smoke, or vibrations.
- 2. Dwelling Unit:** The property proposed to support the home occupation shall contain a minimum of one dwelling unit designed and actually used for residential living by the licensee.
- 3. Residents:** All business must be conducted within the home by the home's occupants. Home occupations may have one employee or other worker who does not reside in the home, as long as adequate off-street parking is provided. Home occupations conducted in accessory dwelling units may not have a non-resident employee or other worker.
- 4. Sale of Merchandise:** There shall be no sale of merchandise which requires customers to go to the property.
- 5. Traffic:** Pedestrian and vehicular traffic will be limited to that normally associated with residential districts. No more than one client's car may be on site at any one time.
- 6. Commercial Vehicle:** The home occupation may involve the use of a commercial vehicle, not to exceed 8000 pounds gross unloaded weight or a single vehicle limousine service. Parking regulations shall be followed. *See* RMC Chapters 6.06 and 6.30. Maintenance and repair of any vehicle associated with the business is prohibited.
- 7. Size Limits:** Up to 25 percent (25%) of the living space or 500 square feet, whichever is less, of the dwelling may be used for the home occupation and any related storage of materials and supplies.
- 8. Storage:** There shall be no outdoor storage of materials or equipment. No storage of toxic or hazardous materials, including ammunition and gunpowder, nor shall merchandise be visible from outside the dwelling.
- 9. Location:** The home occupation shall be confined within the principal residential dwelling as a clearly secondary use of the dwelling. When conducted in an attached garage, the home occupation shall not permanently eliminate or prohibit the use of the garage as a required off-street parking space for a car.
- 10. Use of Facilities and Utilities:** The use of utilities and community facilities shall be limited to that normally associated with the use of the property for residential purposes.
- 11. Advertising:** There shall be no public advertising which calls attention to the fact that the dwelling is being used for business purposes, except when required by Nevada Revised Statutes. Telephone listings, or any other advertising of the business, shall not include the dwelling address. The name, telephone, and purpose of the home occupation may be advertised on not more than one vehicle which is operated by the residents of the dwelling in conjunction with the business. The home address may appear on business card, letterhead, and invoices when the home address is also the business address.
- 12. Electromagnetic Interference:** Electrical or mechanical equipment which creates audible interference in radio receivers or visual or audible interference in television receivers or causes fluctuations in the line voltage outside the dwelling unit is prohibited.
- 13. Fire Safety:** Activities conducted and equipment or material used or stored shall not adversely change the fire safety of the premises.
- 14. Equipment:** There shall be no use or storage of mechanical equipment not recognized as being part of normal household or hobby use.
- 15. Clients:** Businesses that serve young clients (e.g., music or swimming lessons) or other clients that do not drive may have up to six clients on site at any one time. Businesses that serve clients that drive may serve up to two clients on site at any one time. Licensee shall refer to #5 (above) for traffic and parking restrictions.
- 16. Prohibited Uses:** Auto repair, equipment painting, heavy equipment repair, heavy industrial activities and similar uses are prohibited as home occupations. This list is for illustration only and shall not preclude the prohibition of other businesses pursuant to these regulations or other interpretation by the Community Development administrator.